

IDAHO BOARD OF MORTICIANS
Bureau of Occupational Licenses
700 West State Street, P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0063

Board Meeting Minutes of 1/7/2020

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig L Geary - Chair
James R. Sommer
Steve Gordon

BUREAU STAFF: Kelley Packer, Bureau Chief
Dawn Hall, Deputy Bureau Chief
Julie Eavenson, Administrative Support Manager
Lori Peel, Investigative Unit Manager
Nicholas Krema, General Counsel
Rob McQuade, Legal Counsel
Dicsie Gullick, Board Specialist
Eric Nelson, Board Prosecutor

OTHERS PRESENT: Eric English, Licensed Mortician
Charles Bonney, President Funeral Consumers
Alliance of Idaho
Dr. Sharon Fritz, Department of Health and Welfare
Randt Basterrechea, Licensed Mortician

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM MST by Craig L Geary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Sommer made a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2019. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

COMPLAINT MEMORANDUM

Ms. Peel gave the investigative report, which is linked above.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Gordon made a motion that the Board go into executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session was to discuss documents relating to the fitness of a licensee to retain a license or registration. It was seconded by Mr. Sommer. The vote was: Mr. Sommer, aye; Mr. Gordon, aye; and Mr. Geary, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Sommer made a motion to come out of executive session. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

DISCIPLINE

Mr. Gordon made a motion to close case MOR-2020-3 with no action. It was seconded by Mr. Sommer. Motion carried.

FOR BOARD DETERMINATION

Mr. Sommer made a motion to approve the Bureau's recommendation and authorize closure in case numbers I-MOR-2018-6, I-MOR-2018-7, I-MOR-2018-16, I-MOR-2018-17, I-MOR-2020-4, and I-MOR-2020-5. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

Ms. Peel presented a proposed letter for the Board to send to licensees who report having received a misdemeanor DUI conviction. Mr. Sommer made a motion to direct Bureau staff to send the proposed letter when needed. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

LAWS AND RULES

Ms. Hall presented a legislative update. She explained the legislative session began the day prior on January 6, 2020. The Board will be updated as the session progresses.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Hall gave the financial report, which indicated that the Board had a cash balance of \$57,851.60 as of November 30, 2019.

TO DO LIST

Ms. Gullick reviewed the To Do List with the Board and no action was taken.

NEXT MEETING was scheduled for July 7, 2020 at 9:00 AM MDT.

BOARD BUSINESS

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION WORKSHOPS

Ms. Hall introduced Dr. Sharon Fritz from the Department of Health and Welfare who gave a presentation regarding demographics of suicide rates within the state of Idaho. She stated workshops were available in mental health first aid to teach licensees how to identify and respond to issues related to mental health. Mr. Gordon made a motion to approve continuing education credits for workshops relating to

mental health issues and suicide prevention. It was seconded by Mr. Sommer. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. English addressed the Board about reaching out to the association and others regarding law and/or rule changes. He specifically wanted to see law and rule changes regarding the time frame in which a resident trainee must become licensed. He feels the current restriction is hindering persons who served as resident trainees in the past from becoming licensed. The Board directed the Bureau to add the topic to the To Do List for future discussion.

DISCUSSION REGARDING LEGISLATIVE CONTACT

Mr. Sommer made a motion to appoint Mr. Gordon as the Board's legislative contact. It was seconded by Mr. Geary. Motion carried.

CONFERENCE UPDATES AND ATTENDANCE

Ms. Gullick told the Board that the designated Board member and staff member have all arrangements made for attending The International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards (The Conference) Annual Meeting in February and will give their report at the next Board meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed correspondence from The Conference regarding State Board Exams. The Board took no action.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Sommer made a motion that the Board go into executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session was to consider documents relating to the fitness of an applicant to be granted a license or registration. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. The vote was: Mr. Sommer, aye; Mr. Gordon, aye; and Mr. Geary, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Sommer made a motion to come out of executive session. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sommer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 AM MST. It was seconded by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

Craig L Geary, Chair

James R. Sommer

Steve Gordon

Kelley Packer, Bureau Chief